

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6989

BILL NUMBER: HB 1354

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 3, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Length of School Year.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Dvorak

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a school corporation shall conduct at least: (1) 900 hours of instructional time for students in Grades 1 through 6; and (2) 1,080 hours of instructional time for students in Grades 7 through 12; in not less than 170 student instructional days each school term.

The bill provides that the break between consecutive school terms is at least 11 weeks.

The bill provides that, except for year-round schools, a school term may not begin before the fourth Monday in August.

The bill modifies the formula for determining the reduction in the August tuition support distribution to a school corporation that fails to conduct the minimum number of student instructional days during a school term.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill could reduce the possible recovery of tuition support from schools that do not meet the required instruction time. Current law provides a reduction in tuition support for each day under the 180-day requirement. The bill changes the requirement to an hour requirement with a reduction of tuition support if the school does not have at least 170 instructional days, but no reduction if the 900 hours or 1,080 hours requirement is met. A school could keep the current schedule of 5 hours in K-6 and 6 hours in Grades 7-12 with a 180-day calendar but be able to cancel up to 10 days of school due to weather or other conditions without having their tuition support reduced.

The 11-week break requirement and the provisions that provide that a school term may not begin before the fourth Monday in August should have no fiscal impact.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill would allow schools to modify the school calendar from the current 180-day minimum school year to a calendar with an instructional hours requirement with at least 170 instructional days.

The bill could reduce local school expenditures depending on if a school chooses to reduce the number of instructional days in the school calendar. Schools that currently have to make up lost days due to weather conditions or lose tuition support revenue might not have to as long they had 170 instructional days.

School spend about \$35.2 M per day from the school general fund and \$2.8 M per day to transport students to school during the 2008 school year. Schools might also have reduced utilities and school lunch expenditures if the number of days are reduced.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education databases.

Fiscal Analyst: Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.